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European policy of taking the most obvious path to a desired end is well illustrated in the chapters on "Feeding the School Child" and "The School Clinic."

Not the least valuable sections of the book are the comprehensive bibliographies appended to each chapter, which not only are of practical value and stimulate to further study, but indicate better than anything else the strength of a movement which is now world-wide.

AGNES DE LIMA.

Bureau of Municipal Research, New York City.

Mangold, George B. *Child Problems.* Pp. xv, 381. Price, \$1.25. New York: Macmillan Company, 1910.

The purpose of the book, as stated in the preface, is to give "a general view of the principal social child problems of to-day." On the ground that the development of the child is largely determined by environmental conditions, and realizing that the individual cannot control these conditions, the author opens the discussion by presenting certain fundamental obligations of society to childhood, among which are the preservation of life and health, the right to play, the right to freedom from work and the right to education.

The problems are discussed in the following order: I. Infant and Child Mortality. II. Recent Aspects of Educational Reform. III. Child Labor. IV. The Delinquent Child. V. The Dependent and Neglected Child.

The author declares that "the infant and child mortality of a people is a barometer of their social progress." Therefore, he presents the historical stages through which infant mortality has passed, pointing out the slow decline, compared with the more rapid decline of the general death rate. To-day, however, intensive methods of saving life are being inaugurated. The future promises to bring about the prevention of a very large proportion of the present high infant mortality. Specific children's diseases, together with the mortality from each, are discussed, and the more important causes are classified. Special attention is given to the milk problem, and some supplementary methods of decreasing the mortality rate are presented, including parental education, visiting the homes by nurses, municipal campaigns, the prevention of overcrowding and the employment of married women.

In Book II the recent educational reforms affecting the welfare of the child are presented. The author begins this division by a study of play and its value, which he follows logically with a discussion of the playground movement. On the ground that many pupils are not able to benefit fully from our educational system on account of physical or mental defects, the author outlines the system of medical inspection and the special training of backward children. Since the school system, as now organized, is not adequate to meet the needs of our society, the author discusses the new

education which will train for the life activities into which the child must enter.

In Book III the causes, conditions and wastes of child labor are pointed out. The injury to the individual, the economic and social costs and the moral effects are emphasized. A chapter is devoted to legislation, in which the evolution of laws on this subject is discussed and the various subjects of legislation are pointed out.

In Book IV the causes of juvenile delinquency are discussed. The juvenile court, the probation system and the institution each receive attention, as methods of dealing with the existing problem. Looking toward the future, various methods of prevention are suggested.

The final book deals with the principles and methods of saving the dependent and neglected child, both public and private.

The volume deals with the child problem as a whole; it is comprehensive and suggestive; and presents the causes and conditions as preliminary to a discussion of methods of amelioration.

ROBERT E. CHADDOCK.

University of Pennsylvania.

Mathews, J. L. *The Conservation of Water.* Pp. viii, 289. Price, \$2.50. Boston: Small, Maynard & Co., 1910.

Much has been written about conservation in its different phases, but even the individual most widely read in that field could not fail to find a new note in this volume on the proper use of water. The topics discussed are floods, water storage, municipal supplies, water power, swamp drainage, irrigation, the relation of water to soil conservation, navigation, and a summary of the results of conservation of water. The estimate of the advantages to be secured by water conservation may be somewhat too roseate, but were only a measure of these far reaching reforms realized, it would be well worth any effort required in the attainment of them.

The best points made in the book are, first, the tremendous value of the resources available in the proper use of our long neglected streams; second, the critical significance of these resources to the future prosperity of the country, and third, the vital importance of water storage in any sane development of our streams. On this last point especially the author is to be congratulated for the clearness and forcefulness of his argument in favor of the only efficient solution of a great problem. A tendency to use generous figures, where statistics are presented, is the chief criticism against the book, but it may be excused on the ground that the purpose is primarily to set forth a great fundamental concept of the value of water as a resource. Much of the book reads like a romance, in spite of the solid truth that it tells.

WALTER S. TOWER.

University of Pennsylvania.